

a<sup>4</sup> assembly being rotatable about said first axis.  
Please add claims 32-35 as follows:

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a  
32. Method according to claim 8, wherein the power of said high energy beam is initially held low and is increased with increasing depth of the nozzle formed in said nozzle plate.

33. Method according to claim 8, wherein a further mask is interposed between the mask and the beam converging means.

34. Method according to claim 9, wherein the power of said high energy beam is initially held low and is increased with increasing depth of the nozzle formed in said nozzle plate.

35. Method according to claim 9, wherein a further mask is interposed between the mask and the beam converging means.

#### REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments to the specification, a cross-reference to the parent application has been added.

Claims 1-6, 11, 26, and 27 have been canceled, and claims 7-9 have been rewritten to incorporate the

limitations of claim 1. Claims 12 and 16 have been amended to better conform to U.S. practice. Claims 28-31 have been rewritten in independent form, claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 20 and 21 have been amended to omit multiple dependencies, and new claims 32-35 corresponding to original claims 10 and 11 have been added.

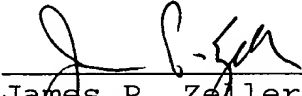
Entry of the foregoing amendments and consideration of the application as amended are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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